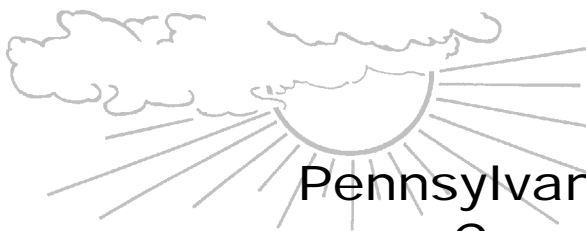




United States Department  
of Agriculture

National Agricultural  
Statistics Service

Pennsylvania Agricultural  
Statistics Service  
2301 North Cameron Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9405  
(717) 787 3904  
FAX (800) 498 1548



## Pennsylvania: Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup

For The Week Ending April 2, 2000

*This is the first report in the 2000 series of the  
"Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup." This and other NASS reports  
can be found on the Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>*

**Poor Week for Field Work:** There were 2.6 days suitable for field work. Soil moisture was rated 5 percent very short, 12 percent short, 65 percent adequate and 18 percent surplus. Activities included spring plowing, planting oats and tobacco; fixing fences; machinery maintenance; ordering supplies; spreading lime; spreading and hauling manure; caring for livestock; spraying herbicides; pruning trees and planting alfalfa.

**Crops:** Last week wet weather in some areas of the Commonwealth slowed field work. Fall seeded crop were starting to green up, in some areas corn and soybean planting has not started at this time. Spring plowing was 20 percent complete, only 1 percent ahead of last year and 10 percent ahead of average.

**Livestock:** Pasture were starting to grow and show good color. There was very little grazing throughout the state. Fifty six percent of the pasture land is rated fair to poor and 40 percent excellent to good.

**Fruit & Vegetables:** Due to the good weather conditions, fruit trees are beginning to bud. Pruning has started in some areas. Sweet corn is being planted under plastic in some areas.

**U.S. As Of March 26, 2000:** Heavy rain soaked dry soils in the southern Great Plains and improved winter wheat conditions in northern Texas, western Oklahoma, and central Kansas, but strong winds and hail damaged a few fields. Rain in parts of the Southeast and Atlantic Coast States halted fieldwork late in the week, but recharged soil moisture levels in the southern Appalachians and Piedmont. Lighter showers maintained soil moisture levels across most of the Corn Belt, although many areas remained short of moisture, especially west of the Mississippi River. Adjacent areas of the northern Great Plains and upper Mississippi Valley also received light precipitation, but the northern High Plains was dry throughout the week. Fieldwork, including soil tillage, fertilizer and herbicide applications, and small grain seeding, gradually gained momentum in the Corn Belt and the central and northern Great Plains. Corn planting continued in the central and southern Great Plains, and a few fields were planted in the Corn Belt late in the week. A dry weather pattern returned to the Southwest and extended northward along the Pacific coast into the Pacific Northwest. Above-normal temperatures east of the Rocky Mountains stimulated winter wheat growth in the Corn Belt and Great Plains.

Issued By:

The Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service, Harrisburg, PA, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA, National Weather Service.

### Weather Data For Week Ending April 2, 2000

Reporting Station	Weekly Temperature				Growing Degree Days From April 1				Rainfall - Values Are For A 24-Hour Period Ending 7:00 A.M., In Inches										
	High	Low	Avg	Dep From Norm	40 Degrees		50 Degrees		March - April								For Week	From April 1	
					Days	Dep From Norm	Days	Dep From Norm	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	Total	Total	Dep From Norm	
Erie	62	28	43		23		1		0.00	0.12	0.09	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.34	0.34		
Warren	66	25	41		16		0		0.00	0.27	0.15	0.22	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.66	0.66		
Franklin	69	23	43	N	30	N	1	N	0.00	0.14	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.15	N	
Clearfield	66	23	41	O	14	O	0	O	0.00	0.06	0.01	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.11	O	
Pittsburgh	68	28	44	T	30	T	0	T	0.00	0.17	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.33	0.33	T	
Rector	72	17	40		13		0		0.00	0.21	0.19	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.44	0.44		
Altoona	67	24	43	A	28	A	1	A	0.00	0.04	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.09	A	
Emporium	68	22	41	V	19	V	0	V	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.34	0.34	V	
Wellsboro	63	23	40	A	16	A	0	A	0.00	0.13	0.01	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.18	A	
State College	68	28	44	I	32	I	3	I	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.12	I	
Williamsport	66	27	46	L	40	L	2	L	0.00	0.23	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.28	0.28	L	
Selinsgrove	65	27	44	A	32	A	0	A	0.00	0.44	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.46	0.46	A	
Montrose	61	22	39	B	9	B	0	B	0.00	1.20	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.00	1.29	1.29	B	
Scranton	63	26	44	L	30	L	0	L	0.00	0.71	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.72	0.72	L	
Allentown	68	27	45	E	39	E	1	E	0.00	0.93	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.94	0.94	E	
Reading	68	30	47		54		6		0.00	0.75	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.76	0.76		
Harrisburg	68	31	49		63		7		0.00	1.16	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.17	1.17		
Biglerville	68	27	47		53		7		0.00	0.38	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.50		
Lancaster	65	30	46		42		1		0.00	0.70	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.72	0.72		
Philadelphia	68	37	51		76		11		0.00	0.86	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.87	0.87		

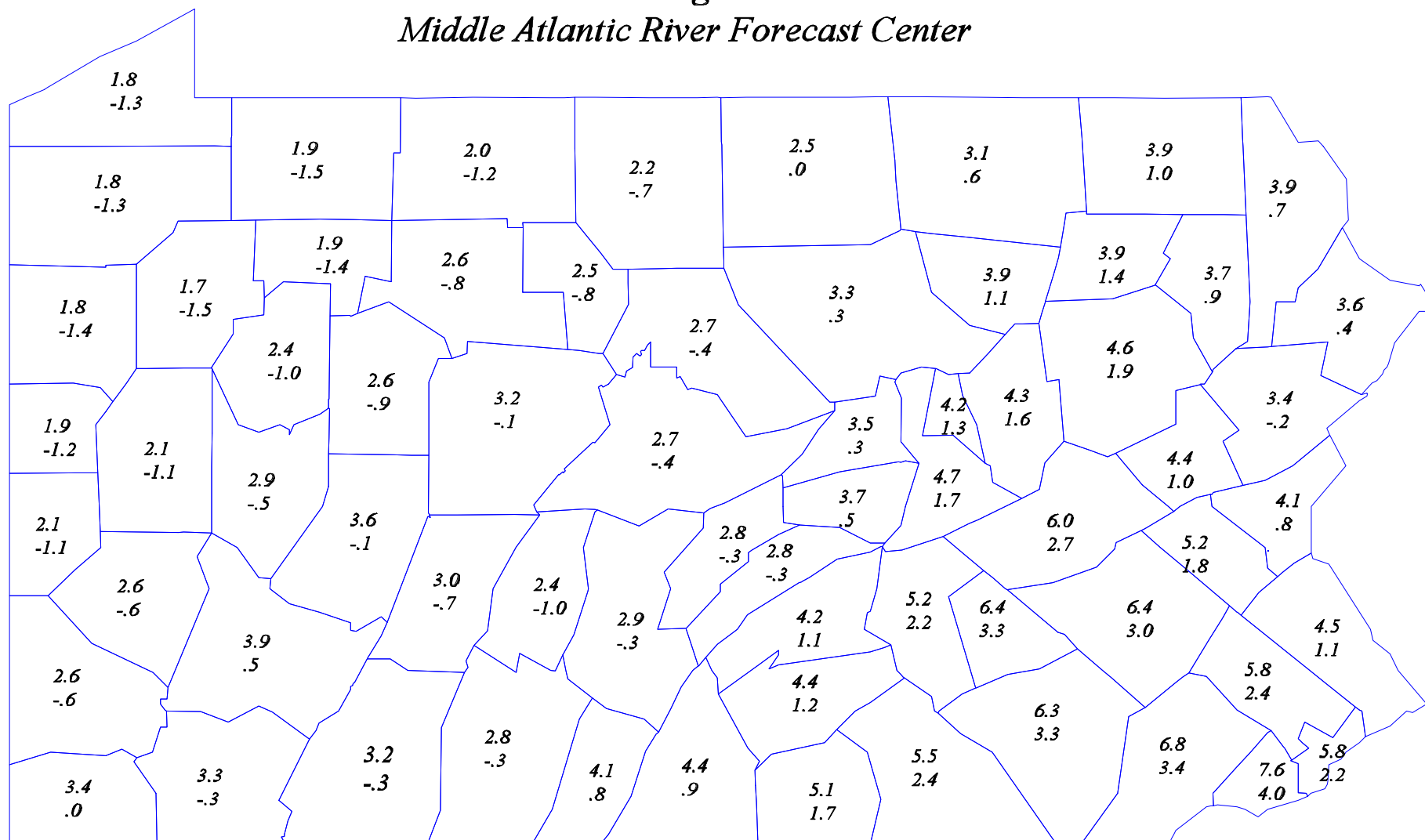
**Weather Summary By:** National Weather Service, State College, Pennsylvania

**Crop Summary By:** Eric Stout, Agricultural Statistician, NASS

# Mean Areal Precipitation (Top) & Departure from Normal (Bottom)

3/01/2000 through 3/31/2000

*Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center*



### PA Crop Progress for Week Ending April 2, 2000

	Current Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>			
Spring Plowing	20	N/A	15	10
Oats, Planted	8	N/A	7	8
Tobacco Beds, Planted	15	N/A	68	45
Peaches, Pink Stage	39	N/A	0	4
Peaches, Full Bloom	17	N/A	0	2
Cherries, Pink Stage	12	N/A	0	2

N /A = Not Available

### PA Crop Condition For Week Ending April 2, 2000

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>				
Winter Wheat	0	2	8	76	14
Alfalfa Stands	1	2	15	65	17
Timothy Clover Stands	4	5	15	59	17
Pasture Conditions	4	19	37	34	6